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Remarks

Claims 1-28 were pending in the application. Claims 1-12 and 26-28 were rejected. Claims 13-25 were withdrawn. No claims were merely objected to and no claims were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, no claims are canceled, claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 11, and 12 are amended, and no claims are added. No new matter is presented.

Claim Objections

Claims 3-5, 8, and 12 were objected to as being in improper dependent form. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Regarding claims 3-5, the identified fluids are positively recited and therefore form elements of the claimed apparatus. If the examiner believes alternative wording would better achieve this result, he is invited to propose such wording. Regarding claims 8 and 12, it is believed the foregoing amendment achieves this result. Again, however, the examiner is invited to propose any desired alternative wording.

Claims 4, 5, 8, 11, and 12 were objected to for enumerated informalities. These have been corrected by the foregoing amendment.

Claims Rejections-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-12 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bunge (US Patent 6,394,793) in view of Wang (US Patent 4,407,487). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Bunge relates to the quenching of forged turbine disks. These are relative massive superalloy components. Wang relates to the continuous cooling of sheet metal. Slabs and billets are only off-handedly mentioned without any supporting disclosure. Furthermore, Wang does not appear to identify forgings or any other convolutedly shaped workpieces. Thus, the differences in situation between Bunge and Wang do not lead one to attempt the combination. Furthermore, Wang substantially predates Bunge. Had the combination been obvious, Bunge would have been expected to have made the combination himself.

No citation was made for the motor and linkage of claims 7 and 28, the "means for

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providing relative movement..." of claim 11, the "means for moving the workpiece..." of claim 26, or the oscillation of claim 27. Thus, even if the basic combination were proper, it does not suggest the subject matter of these claims.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1-28 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account of record.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

William B. Slate

Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No.: 37,238

Telephone: 203-777-6628

Telefax: 203-865-0297

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted this 7th day of February 2006 to the USPTO, at Fax No. 1-571-273-8300.


Antoinette Sullo